

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 10, 2007

**Senate Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 37**

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**Introduced by Senators Simitian and Alquist**

April 9, 2007

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 37—Relative to the Lewis E. Platt Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 37, as amended, Simitian. Lewis E. Platt Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified segment of State Highway Route 87 in ~~Santa Clara County~~ *the City of San Jose* as the Lewis E. Platt Memorial Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Lewis E. Platt was president and chief executive  
2 officer of the Hewlett-Packard Company (HP) from 1992 to 1999,  
3 and served as chairman of the board of HP from 1993 to 1999,  
4 having been elected to that position by the board to succeed David  
5 Packard upon his retirement in 1993; and  
6 WHEREAS, Lewis E. Platt was born on April 11, 1941, in  
7 Johnson City, New York and received a bachelor's degree in  
8 mechanical engineering from Cornell University in Ithaca, New  
9 York; and  
10 WHEREAS, Thereafter Lewis E. Platt earned a master's degree  
11 in business administration from the Wharton School at the  
12 University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and received an

1 honorary doctorate in engineering science from the University of  
2 Santa Clara; and

3 WHEREAS, Lewis E. Platt began his employment with HP in  
4 1966, and held a variety of management posts in the company's  
5 medical products operations prior to becoming general manager  
6 of the Waltham Massachusetts Division in 1974, and, thereafter,  
7 served as general manager of HP's analytical group from 1980 to  
8 1984, and was elected a vice president of HP in 1983, managing  
9 various aspects of HP's computer business from 1984 to 1988;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, In 1987, Lewis E. Platt was appointed to the  
12 Advisory Committee on Trade Policy Negotiations by President  
13 Bill Clinton and served as chairman of one of its task forces, the  
14 World Trade Organization Task Force; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1996, Lewis E. Platt was elected cochair and a  
16 member of the board of directors of Joint Venture Silicon Valley  
17 and the Tech Network, formed in 1991, to strengthen the local  
18 economy and make the area a better place to live, and he was a  
19 member of The Business Council, also serving as a member of the  
20 California Business Roundtable from 1993 to 1995; and

21 WHEREAS, Lewis E. Platt always championed the philosophies  
22 that set HP apart, particularly its egalitarian work culture, the  
23 progressive attention to employees' needs, and a real commitment  
24 to the communities where HP is located; and

25 WHEREAS, Lewis E. Platt, while serving as the chief executive  
26 officer and chairman of the board of HP, one of the largest  
27 high-tech companies in the world, took the time to personally  
28 engage in a local transportation measure championed by the Silicon  
29 Valley Leadership Group to improve the quality of life and the  
30 economic health of Silicon Valley, specifically taking the following  
31 steps to promote that measure:

32 (1) Loaning out an HP employee funded by HP for six months  
33 to run the countywide campaign for the measure.

34 (2) Serving as fundraising chair for the campaign with Ron  
35 Gonzales, who was a supervisor for the County of Santa Clara at  
36 that time, serving as his vice chair.

37 (3) Personally raising nearly nine hundred thousand dollars  
38 (\$900,000) of the one million six hundred thousand dollars  
39 (\$1,600,000) required to run a competitive campaign for the  
40 measure; and through his leadership, HP made a sizable financial

1 contribution, as well as the in-kind contribution of the time and  
2 salary of the loaned HP employee. In addition, making fewer than  
3 15 telephone calls, Lewis E. Platt raised the rest of the funds needed  
4 for the campaign.

5 (4) Motivating the rest of the fundraising committee through  
6 his personal leadership and engagement by chairing meetings of  
7 a communitywide committee of 45 diverse leaders. His leadership  
8 by example motivated that group to raise the entire one million  
9 six hundred thousand dollars (\$1,600,000) in less than 90 days;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The campaign resulted in the voters' approval of  
12 Measures A and B at the General Election held on November 5,  
13 1996, with the additional one-half cent sales tax revenue, which  
14 terminated on April 1, 2006, funding 19 road and rail-transit  
15 improvements, all completed on time and within budget, just as  
16 Lewis E. Platt had promised during the campaign for these  
17 measures; and

18 WHEREAS, The distinguished life of Lewis E. Platt ended on  
19 September 8, 2005; now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved, by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
21 *thereof concurring,* That in recognition of the numerous  
22 achievements and contributions of Lewis E. Platt, the Legislature  
23 designates the segment of ~~northbound~~ State Highway Route 87  
24 ~~commencing with its intersection with State Highway Route 280~~  
25 ~~and ending at Exit 6B,~~ *between State Highway Route 280 and the*  
26 *Julian Street/Santa Clara Street exit in the City of San Jose, the*  
27 *Lewis E. Platt Memorial Highway;* and be it further

28 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is requested  
29 to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the  
30 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this  
31 special designation, ~~and~~ *and,* upon receiving donations from  
32 nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs;  
33 and be it further

34 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
35 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the  
36 author for appropriate distribution.

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